Instructor: Nancy Ramsay

Prerequisites: Ministries of Care

Description of Content:
This course presumes that in addition to liturgical contexts, ritual practices are an important resource for personal and communal healing, spiritual renewal, and experiencing the transforming power of God’s justice and love. Ritual practices are also a resource for public life in secular contexts where such practices point to values shared within and beyond religious communities such as justice, healing, and hope. In this course students will identify ritual possibilities for enhancing experiences of healing and care in the context of Christian life, develop skills for constructing ritual practices for particular personal and communal needs for care, and develop skills for constructing ritual practices as effective public witness to God’s transforming love and justice.

Class Procedures:
Faculty presentations, class discussion, experiential learning, guest presenters, and student presentations

Requirements and related grading procedures:
MDiv Students:
1. Contributing regularly and effectively to the learning community through generative participation and through threaded discussions for assigned readings 20%
2. Sharing in class leadership for a class session in consultation with the instructor 40%
3. Development of an effective ritual practice in consultation with the instructor demonstrating pastoral skills and effective integration of theoretical and theological rationale. (20-25pp.) 40%

DMin Students:
1. Contributing regularly and effectively to the learning community through generative participation and through threaded discussions for assigned readings 20%
2. Sharing in class leadership for a class session in consultation with the instructor 30%
3. Development of an effective ritual practice for the student’s ministry context demonstrating pastoral skills and effective integration of theoretical and theological rationale. (20-25pp) 30%
4. A critical book review of a text chosen in consultation with the instructor that deepens the student’s integrative capacities with 20%
behavioral sciences and theology.

Texts:

